

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
19 MARCH 1963

AM
10:15

I. CONVENE, ROOM 7000, INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

II. ADMINISTRATION

1. Approval of Minutes of February 1963 Meeting
2. Date of Next Meeting: 17 April 1963, 9:30 a.m.
Executive Session: 16 April 1963, 10:15 a.m. *May 13 - 14*
3. Policy on Removal of Statuary from Washington
4. Proposed letter to Chairman of Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission relative to submission of new designs.

III. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS-INTERVIEWS

1. General Services Administration

a. Public Buildings Service

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse Building, Ocala,
Florida - Intermediate studies of mural by Hollis
Holbrook

b. Region Three

Federal Triangle, Internal Revenue Building, South
Courtyard, Proposed Cooling Tower - Further studies
of material

→ *Expenditure*
2. District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency

Southwest Urban Renewal Area - Revised plans for development
of Maine Avenue Waterfront

3. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National
Capital Region

- a. Lincoln Memorial - Proposed handrails and lighting for
steps
- b. Jefferson Memorial - Proposed handrails and lighting
for steps

11:30

- c. George Washington Memorial Parkway, Turkey Run Recreation Area - Proposed design of Comfort Stations
- d. Site for statue of Melpomene - Bronze Replica, Gift of the Greek Government
- 4. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint
Medal for Sam Rayburn - Proposed Design
- 5. National Cultural Center
National Cultural Center Seal - Revised Design
- 6. Department of the Army, Office of the Chief of Support Services
Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington Memorial Amphitheater - Proposed Railing around Cheek Blocks
- 7. District of Columbia Government
 - a. Department of Buildings and Grounds
 - (1) Hine Junior High School, 7th and C Sts., S.E.- Revised Design
 - (2) Mildred Green Elementary School, 15th St. & Mississippi Ave., S.E. - Revised Design
 - b. Department of Licenses and Inspections
 - (1) Shipstead-Luce Act
 - (a) Building Applications - Appendix 1
 - (b) Appeal of the Jack Stone Company for the American Oil Company - Status
 - (c) Watergate Development at Virginia Avenue, New Hampshire Avenue and Potomac Parkway, N.W. (Professor Luigi Moretti, architect; Messrs. Royce F. Ward, Giuseppe Cecchi, H. Newman Clark, Nicolas Salgo of Island Vista, Inc.)
 - (2) Old Georgetown Act
 - (a) Building Applications - Appendix 2
 - (b) O.G. 3331, 1045 30th St, N.W. - Proposed 5-story brick office building

2:00 p.m.

IV. LEGISLATION

1. Draft Legislation-Bureau of the Budget-3/12/63-Rpt.Rqstd.

"To amend the National Cultural Center Act, to enlarge the site within which the National Cultural Center may be built; to enlarge the Board of Trustees, and for other purposes."

2. S. 165-1/14/63-Mr.Javits-88thC-Rpt.Rqstd.

"To establish a United States Arts Foundation."

3. S.315-1/18/63-Mr.Dirksen-88th C - Rpts. Rqstd.

"To amend the National Cultural Center Act as amended, to enlarge the site within which the National Cultural Center may be built."

4. H.J.Res. 181-1/24/63-Mr. Kyl-88thC-Rpt. Rqstd.

"Providing for the establishment of the Board on Presidential Memorials in the Nation's Capital."

5. H.R.262-1/9/63-Mr.Abermethy-88thC-Rpt.Rqstd.

"To provide that certain real property under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior shall be transferred to the Secretary of the Army and made a part of the Arlington National Cemetery."

6. H.R.893-1/9/63-Mr.Hull-88thC-Rpt. Rqstd.

"To authorize the erection of a memorial in the District of Columbia to General John J. Pershing."

7. H.R.1584-1/10/63-Mr.Curtin-88thC-Rpt. Rqstd.

"To amend the Act of August 21, 1935 to provide for a determination of whether certain sites, buildings, or other objects are of national historical significance, and to prohibit the use of Federal funds for highway purposes which damage or destroy national historical sites, buildings, or other objects."

8. H.R.2984-1/29/63-Mr.Garry-88thC-Rpt.Rqstd.

"To authorize the enlargement of the Arlington National Cemetery and to provide the certain land heretofore reserved for other purposes shall be made a part of the Arlington National Cemetery and shall be administered by the Secretary of the Army as a part of the Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes."

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19 March 1963

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
19 March 1963

The Commission met, pursuant to notice, in executive session, at 10:15 a.m., with David E. Finley, Chairman, presiding.

Present were: Members: David E. Finley
Peter Hurd
Douglas W. Orr
Hideo Sasaki
Ralph Walker

Staff: L.R. Wilson, Executive Sec'y
C.H. Atherton, Asst. Sec'y
C.L. Martin, Counsel
Susan E. Bennett, Admin. Asst.
Myra Younker, Editor
Mrs. Leone W. Vialpando,
Recorder

I. ADMINISTRATION

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of February 19th and 20th were approved as drafted.

2. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting of the Commission was set for April 17th at 9:30 a.m., with an Executive Session on April 16th at 10:15 a.m. The dates of the May meeting were tentatively set for May 13th and 14th.

3. Policy on Removal of Statuary from Washington

It was drawn to the members' attention that bills had recently been introduced in the Senate and House of Representatives to remove a statue of General John A. Rawlins, aide-de-camp to General Ulysses S. Grant, from Rawlins Park to either Rawlins, Wyoming or Galena, Illinois.

The members concurred in the Chairman's view that it is improper to remove statuary from the Capital; that it is an insult to the person honored, the citizens who sponsored the statue and the sculptor; that civilized nations of the world, except Communist countries, do not follow such a practice, and that the Commission of Fine Arts should oppose it.

It was concluded that the Commission should recommend at the proper time that the bills to remove the Rawlins statue not be enacted.

/ 4. Proposed Letter to the Chairman of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission in re Submission of New Designs

The Chairman suggested that a letter be sent to the Chairman of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission reminding him that it had been agreed at the January 22d meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts that Mr. Pedersen, architect of Pedersen and Tilney, would prepare and submit drawings in sketch form illustrating possible modifications of his firm's design for the memorial; that nothing had been submitted to date, and that the Memorial Commission was required by law to submit a progress report to Congress on or before June 30th, and asking whether the Memorial Commission intended to submit any studies of possible modifications, or had elected to submit another design selected from the design competition.

The members voted to send a letter as outlined by the Chairman. EXHIBIT A

5. Reappointment of Mr. Henry Saylor as a Member of the Board of Architectural Consultants on Georgetown

The Chairman, as directed at the meeting on February 19th, reported that he had spoken to Mr. Saylor, whose term as a member of the Board of Architectural Consultants was due to expire in March, and that Mr. Saylor had agreed to continue to serve on the Board for a period of one year.

6. Salute to the Commission of Fine Arts by Guardian Federal Savings and Loan Association

The Secretary reported that a representative of the Association had inquired if the Commission would have any objections to a proposal to "salute" it as a part of its program of publically honoring executive agencies of the United States Government. The "salute" would consist of a newspaper advertisement and placards displayed in each of the Association's offices, with a brief statement of the Commission's history and the nature of its functions.

The members had no objections to the proposal and authorized the staff to prepare the text of the statement on the Commission's history and objectives.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS-INTERVIEWS

1. District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency

Southwest Urban Renewal Area, Maine Avenue Waterfront - Revised Plan for Development

The members were informed that on the following day representatives

of the Redevelopment Land Agency, Mr. David Orem, Director of the Washington Channel Waterfront Corporation, a citizen group employed by the RLA to prepare a development plan for the waterfront, and Mrs. Chloethiel Smith, architect of the firm of Satterlee and Smith, would meet with the Commission to discuss a revised plan for the waterfront prepared by Mrs. Smith.

The members briefly examined site plans and drawings showing the total plan. The members noted a number of changes made to an earlier plan, such as substitution of open parking structures, a promenade near the water running the entire length of the project, etc. In general they approved of the plan and agreed that the waterfront should be developed as a unit rather than in individual lots. They liked the balance proposed between the areas to be devoted to public facilities, such as parks, walkways, recreational facilities, and the commercial facilities which they believed would make the waterfront an interesting place to visit.

Final action was postponed until the following day.

2. General Services Administration

✓ a. Public Buildings Service

U.S. Postoffice and Courthouse Building, Ocala, Florida, Intermediate Study of Mural by Hollis Holbrook

The members examined a one-fourth scale model of the mural to be located in the lobby of the Post Office and Courthouse Building. The model consisted of a sequence of 18 panels depicting activities and interests indigenous to Ocala, Florida.

The members liked the colors and manner in which the study model was executed, and agreed to approve the general concept. However, they were of the opinion that one of the panels, No. 18, entitled "Horses", appeared to be drawn in a larger scale than the other panels. The reason for this imbalance could not readily be determined from the drawings of the lobby furnished the Commission. It was decided to ask for information which would explain more fully the location of the mural and its relation to the other paintings.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter to the Administrator of General Services, setting forth the Commission's views. EXHIBIT B

b. Region Three

Federal Triangle, Internal Revenue Service Building, South Courtyard, Proposed Cooling Tower - Further Studies of Material

The members were shown drawings illustrating the proposed

method of marking and texturing the reinforced concrete to be used in the freestanding conical cooling tower, approved by the Commission at its meeting on September 19, 1962.

After the members had examined the drawings, Mr. Walker suggested that the Commission should reconsider its previous approval of this project in the light of a forthcoming recommendation by the President's Advisory Council on the Rehabilitation of Pennsylvania Avenue that the Old Post Office Building be razed and the north wing of the Internal Revenue Building be completed as originally planned. He pointed out an air conditioning plant for the building could easily be incorporated in the new wing. On the other hand, the concrete cooling tower in the courtyard would be a permanent type of structure. Mr. Walker suggested that the Commission might recommend that a standardized metal cooling tower be erected in the courtyard as a temporary measure.

The other members recalled that the Commission had reluctantly approved the placing of the cooling tower in the courtyard, and had suggested earlier that it be placed underground. They agreed that Mr. Walker's suggestion should be discussed with representatives of the Public Buildings Service. Accordingly, action on the matter was postponed until the April meeting.

/ 3. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Capital Region

a. George Washington Memorial Parkway, Turkey Run Recreation Area - Proposed Design of Comfort Stations

Site plans and elevation drawings of a comfort station to be erected in the Turkey Run Recreation Area were examined. According to information received in the National Park Service the design was a standard plan which had been developed for use throughout the National Park System in the Washington area.

The members thought that the design was unsatisfactory architecturally and functionally. They thought the use of strip windows placed at the eaves would result in poor light and ventilation, and that the roof supports appeared to be excessively heavy. Mr. Sasaki stated that he had seen comfort stations in parks near Toronto, Canada which, though of a similar design, were constructed so as to be well lighted and ventilated and of more pleasing appearance. He suggested that the Park Service should study that design.

After some discussion the Commission voted to disapprove the design.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter to the Director of the Park Service setting forth the Commission's views.

EXHIBIT C

✓ b. Site for Statue of Melpomene - Bronze Replica, Gift of the Greek Government

The Commission was asked for its advice as to a site for a bronze copy of a statue of Melpomene, the Greek Muse of Tragedy, which is a gift of the Greek Government to the United States. Photographs of the original larger-than-life-size statue, excavated in 1959 in Piraeus, were examined.

The Chairman reported that he had discussed the question of a site for the statue with Mr. Charles A. Shinkwin, Chief, Division of Buildings Management of the Department of State, and had suggested that the statue could be placed either in one of the courtyards of the building or in the small triangular park on the east side of the building at 21st Street, N.W. near a copy of the statue of the "Discus Thrower", which was a gift of the Italian Government. The Chairman stated that he understood that the National Park Service, National Capital Region, was opposed to placing the statue on park land.

After examining a photograph of the statue, and hearing a written description of it supplied by the Greek government, the members were of the opinion that the statue was not suitable for location in open park setting and should be displayed either in a courtyard or inside the State Department Building.

Mr. Robert Horne, Associate Regional Director of the National Park Service, National Capital Region, Mr. Clyde Dunn of the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State, and Mr. Shinkwin, conferred with the Commission.

Mr. Horne stated that the Park Service had not reached a decision on the matter of placing the statue in park land, but that an Act of Congress in 1912 prohibits placing statues in park land in the District of Columbia without an Act of Congress. He stated that he would like to have the recommendation of the Commission on the matter.

(Note: Research undertaken by the Staff following the March meeting disclosed that there is a provision in the Appropriation Act of August 24, 1912, 66th Congress (37 Stat. 444) to the effect that:

"Hereafter there shall not be erected on any reservation, park, or public grounds of the United States within the District of Columbia any building or structure without express authority of Congress."

This provision is the law today, and inasmuch as a statue may be construed as a "structure" within the commonly accepted definition of that word, it has the effect of barring the erection of a statue on public land without the express authority of Congress.)

Mr. Dunn stated that the policy of the State Department in the past has been to prohibit the placing of statues, which are the gifts of foreign countries in the State Department Building itself, the reasons being both architectural and diplomatic. However, he pointed out that this policy was not immutable and that the Secretary of State would ultimately decide where to place the statue, if it is to be located in the building.

In the discussion that followed the members pointed out that they were of the opinion that the statue should be placed indoors or in a courtyard rather than in a park because of its size and configuration. It was suggested that a suitable place might be found for the ceremonial receipt of the statue from the Greek Government where it could be temporarily displayed until a permanent location was found. It was also suggested that the Board of Trustees of the National Cultural Center might wish to have the statue for the Center.

The Commission concluded that, before making its recommendation, the members should visit the State Department Building. This was done later. After inspection of a number of sites in the building and the park site with Mr. Shinkwin, the members recommended that the statue be placed temporarily in front of the green marble panel to the right of the entrance of the main lobby of the building on C Street. It was recommended that a portion of one of the columns from the Parthenon in Athens be secured as a base for the statue if possible, and if not, a reproduction about 30 inches high. It was also recommended that if the Department of State so wishes the statue might be offered to the National Cultural Center for permanent installation in that building.

The Chairman was also authorized to prepare a letter to the Department of State giving the Commission's recommendations. EXHIBIT D

4. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

Medal for the Late Sam Rayburn - Proposed Design

Studies were examined of a proposed design for a Congressional medal honoring the late Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives. The design consisted of a portrait bust of Mr. Rayburn, with a portion of the Capitol in the background on the obverse, and on the reverse a gavel and sprig of the Texas State flower, the Bluebonnet. The reverse design was prepared by Mr. Phillip Fowler of the Philadelphia Mint, and the obverse was the work of Mr. F. Gasparro.

The members thought the portrait bust was an excellent likeness of Mr. Rayburn and approved the design as presented.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter to the Director of the Mint setting forth the views of the Commission. EXHIBIT E

5. National Cultural Center

National Cultural Center - Revised Design

The Chairman informed the members that the Board of Trustees had expressed dissatisfaction with the design of the seal approved by the Commission on October 16, 1962 because they believed it did not portray the National character of the Cultural Center. Accordingly, the Heraldic Institute, Department of the Army, had been requested to prepare studies showing variations of the Great Seal of the United States. Three studies, Designs A, B and C, were submitted for consideration by the Commission. The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Jarold A. Kieffer, Executive Director of the Board of Trustees, expressing his opinion of the three designs. EXHIBIT F

Of the three designs, Design A most closely resembled the Great Seal. It showed a frontal view of an eagle grasping a laurel branch, upon which was superimposed a shield. Above the eagle's head were four five-pointed stars representing the fine arts. In Design B an eagle clutching what appeared to be a cord with tassels was shown. Below the eagle was a crenelation with four encircled stars representing the fine arts arranged two on either side. At the top of the seal, above the Roman lettering were nine additional smaller stars. The symbolism of the cord, crenelation and nine stars was not explained with the submission. Design C was an eagle in profile resting on a laurel branch, and clutching in his mouth a whip pennant with the words "National Cultural Center." The four symbolic stars were shown in the upper right corner of the seal near the rim.

The members were of the opinion that Design B showed the most promise of being developed to satisfy the intent of the Board of Trustees with additional study. It was suggested that the lettering be rearranged nearer to the rim of the seal and the nine small stars eliminated. The suggestion was also made that the design be developed with an eagle in the posture of flight.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter setting forth the Chairman's views.

EXHIBIT G

6. Department of the Army, Office of the Chief of Support Services

Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington Memorial Amphitheater - Proposed Railing Around Cheek Blocks - Reconsideration

The Commission reconsidered its recommendation, made at the February 19th meeting, that the hazard presented by visitors standing on the cheek blocks of the stairway to the Reception Building be corrected by either placing statuary on the blocks or altering them to make them planting boxes.

The members concluded that the problem was primarily one of proper policing of the area to prevent the hazard from arising, rather than an architectural problem requiring an alteration to the building. Accordingly, it was recommended that a guard be placed on each block

during ceremonial occasions to prohibit visitors from standing on the blocks.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter setting forth the Commission's views.

EXHIBIT H

7. District of Columbia Government

✓ a. Department of Buildings and Grounds

(1) Hine Junior High School, 7th and C Streets, S.E.-Revised Design

Elevation drawings of a revised design for the school were examined. The revisions were intended to comply with the Commission's recommendation at the February meeting that the gymnasium be detached from the remainder of the building so as to eliminate the serious circulation problem which would arise in the original plan caused by placing the gymnasium in the center of the building.

The revised design showed the gymnasium, auditorium and classroom building as three separate elements interconnected by enclosed corridors.

The members thought the revised design was an excellent solution to the problem and that the elevations of the building had also been improved.

No action was taken pending a conference with the architects on the following day.

(2) Mildred Green Elementary School, 15th Street and Mississippi Avenue, S.E. - Revised Design

The members were shown a small scale rendering of a proposed architectural treatment of the center element of the building. No plans or elevations of the design were submitted.

The members of the Commission noted that the architect had made no attempt to meet their objections to the plan of the building voiced at the January and February meetings. The members thought the rigid adherence to a plan which the Commission thought was poor in spite of all suggestions for further studies was puzzling. They concluded the Commission should not approve the design, but should insist on further study.

No final action was taken pending the conference on the following day.

b. Department of Licenses and Inspections

✓ (1) Shipstead-Luce Act

(a) Building Applications, Appendix 1

The Commission considered actions taken on Shipstead-Luce building permit applications forwarded for review by the Department of Licenses and Inspections, as listed in Appendix 1 dated 19 March 1963, of the Order of Business. Confirmation of the action was given in each case of favorable recommendation, and of the unfavorable recommendation in the case of S.L. 2583, 800 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., National Bank of Washington.

The Commission carefully considered plans and renderings for a proposed office building submitted with S.L. 2589, 633 Indiana Avenue, Indiana Associates. The members concluded that the plans for the building, which would be located near the Archives Building and the National Gallery of Art, were not acceptable both as to architectural design and proposed materials of construction.

The Chairman was authorized to send a letter setting forth the Commission's views.

EXHIBIT I

(b) Appeal of the Jack Stone Company for the American Oil Company - Status

Counsel reported that at a re-hearing of an appeal by the Jack Stone Company, sign makers, before the Board of Appeals on March 7th, an Assistant Corporation Counsel for the District of Columbia moved that the appeal be dismissed for want of jurisdiction in the Board of Appeals and Review. The motion was based upon an Opinion of the Corporation Counsel to that effect, which was dated August 29, 1962 and approved by the Board of Commissioners on September 4, 1962.

EXHIBIT J1

In accordance with the Corporation Counsel's Opinion, the appeal was dismissed. A memorandum by the Staff on this proceeding is attached hereto as EXHIBIT J2.

It was explained that the Opinion indicated that no authority had ever been delegated by the District Commissioners to the Board of Appeals and Review to hear appeals involving either the Shipstead-Luce Act or the Old Georgetown Act, but that there was no legal objection to a delegation of such authority if the Commissioners wished to do so. Thus, a question has arisen as to what procedure the Board of Commissioners will establish.

After some discussion it was concluded that the Chairman should write to the President of the Board of Commissioners requesting him to inform the Commission what was proposed to be done in the matter. EXHIBIT K

(c) Apartment Building at 1845 Harvard Street, N.W. - Revised Design

The members were shown a rendering of the proposed building intended to show compliance with the Commission's recommendation

at the February 19th meeting. At that time the Commission suggested that the building be placed upon a landscaped terrace along Harvard Street near the entrance to the National Zoological Park. The drawing indicated that Mr. Boris Timchenko, landscape architect, had prepared the landscaping plan.

Revisions to the design consisted of some modifications to the roof structures, and the planting of trees and shrubbery near the entrance at Harvard Street. No wide terrace was apparent in the drawing. Moreover, it was noted that the plans showed a nine-story building, although the architect had proposed to reduce the building to eight stories at the December 1962 meeting.

The members agreed that the submission could not be regarded as a sincere attempt to meet the Commission's objections to the proposed plan and was totally unacceptable.

Mr. Julian P. Green, Assistant Superintendent of Licenses and Permits, stated that he would attend the Commission's meeting with the architect, Mr. Vernon C. Moore, on the following day. He also agreed that the rendering submitted did not represent compliance with the Commission's recommendation as he understood it.

No action was taken pending the meeting on the following day.

✓ (d) Watergate Development at Virginia Avenue, New Hampshire Avenue and Rock Creek Parkway, N.W. - Revised Design

Professor Luigi Moretti, architect, Mr. Milton Fischer, architect of Corning, Moore, Elmore and Fischer, and Messrs. Royce F. Ward, Guiseppe Cecchi, H. Newman Clark and Nicolas Salgo, representatives of Island Vista, Inc. met with the Commission to discuss revisions to the design of the project.

Mr. Fischer explained that Island Vista Corporation's main concern was the design of Building No. 2 and the villas around it which would be constructed as the first phase of the project.

Through an interpreter, Professor Moretti explained his concept of the project in the light of suggestions made by the Commission, using scale models and drawings of the entire project and of Building No. 2. The transcript of his remarks appears as EXHIBIT L¹.

In their discussion with Professor Moretti, the members expressed the opinion that the proposed underground villas would not be practical in the humid Washington climate, and the space they would occupy would be best devoted to the use and enjoyment of occupants of the building.

The members expressed objection to the sharp corners proposed on three of the buildings, and recommended that a means be found to soften them.

It was also suggested that the visual effect of the three massive buildings along Virginia Avenue might be improved if the center commercial office building were set back somewhat and possibly raised in height.

Finally, the members stated that they liked the general concept of the plan, but the Commission was concerned that the details of the buildings, i.e., the color and treatment of materials, the manner of handling the balconies, the roof garden, etc., not be over-exuberant when evaluated with the Washington environment. Professor Moretti agreed there should not be any conflict between the project and public buildings, and stated that whereas heretofore the main effort in the process of design had been to inflate the project, henceforth the effort would be to control and discipline it.

The Commission requested that drawings showing the details of the buildings and samples of the building materials be submitted before working drawings were prepared. The representatives of Island Vista Corporation were of the opinion that this would be done at the time of the May meeting.

A press release was prepared and approved, announcing that the Commission had met with Professor Moretti, was pleased with the progress of the design under the guidelines established last summer, and would see details at a later date.

EXHIBIT L²

(2) Old Georgetown Act, Public Law 808, 81st Congress

(a) Building Applications - Appendix 2

The Assistant Secretary reported the action taken, after the recommendations of the Old Georgetown Board of Architects, on the applications forwarded for review by the District of Columbia Department of Licenses and Inspections. This report was dated 19 March 1963, and comprised appendix 2 of the Order of Business. After examining the individual cases the Commission confirmed the favorable recommendations. An unfavorable recommendation was confirmed in the case of O.G. 3338, 2901 M Street, N.W., Williams and Baker, Inc.

(b) Informal Revision to O.G. 3331, 1045 30th St., N.W. - Proposed Office Building

There was a general discussion of the design of a proposed 5-story office building to be located near the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal at 30th Street, N.W. The Secretary explained that the Board of Architectural Consultants had been concerned about the general massing of the building because of its irregularity of shape particularly

on the Canal side and the proposed penthouse, and had requested the architect to submit sketches showing the same volume of floor space (65,000 sq. ft.) in a more organized form. Revised drawings submitted by the architect to the Board were unacceptable, and the staff of the Commission was asked to prepare studies showing possible solutions to the problem.

After examining the original submission, the architect's revisions and the staff's studies, the members agreed that the latter represented the approach which would be most acceptable to the Commission. Accordingly, the staff was authorized to present its sketches to Mr. Green, Assistant Superintendent for Licenses and Permits for transmittal to the architect. It was pointed out that it was not the Commission's intention, in presenting the sketches to Mr. Green, to design the building, but merely to illustrate one possible solution which would be acceptable to the Commission.

III. LEGISLATION

✓ Requests for Reports on Legislation

The Commission discussed requests for its views from various committees of Congress and the Bureau of the Budget on the bills listed in EXHIBIT M.

The members agreed to report favorably on a draft bill "To amend the National Cultural Center Act, to enlarge the site within which the National Cultural Center may be built, etc." and to send an unfavorable report on S. 314, 88th Congress, a bill "To amend the National Cultural Center Act, as amended, to enlarge the site within which the National Cultural Center may be built", because of an erroneous description of the site sought by the National Cultural Center; to report ^{unfavorably} favorably on H.J.Res. 181, 88th Congress, a bill "Providing for the establishment of the Board on Presidential Memorials in the Nation's Capital"; and to withhold reports on the remaining bills until they are requested by the Bureau of the Budget.

Thereupon, at 5:30 p.m., the meeting was recessed until 9:30 a.m. on the following day.

Respectfully submitted,

C.L. Martin

C.L. Martin
Counsel

22 March 1963

Dear Mr. Biddle:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 19, reviewed the status of the proposed memorial to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in relation to the Joint Resolution of Congress (P.L. 87-842/87th Congress H.J.Res. 712, approved October 18, 1962). This law, as you know, calls for the presentation of a report to Congress by the Roosevelt Commission not later than June 30, 1963 after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts "to determine whether the winning design of Pedersen and Tilney, of New York, may be so changed or modified to secure the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts. If it is determined that such changes or modifications are not practical, the Commission is authorized and directed to select, with the advice and approval of the Commission of Fine Arts, such other design among those already submitted in the competition for the proposed memorial, or to consider a living memorial such as the stadium, an educational institution, information center, memorial park or any other suitable or worthy project. The Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Congress for its approval and to the President not later than June 30, 1963."

At your meeting with the Commission of Fine Arts on December 19, 1962 the Commission suggested that such changes in the Pedersen and Tilney design, as the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Commission felt would meet the objections of the Commission of Fine Arts, be shown either with pencil sketches or by verbal description, or that another design be submitted from among those chosen in the nation-wide competition.

The Commission has been expecting to hear from you since our December meeting and hope we can receive these recommendations from your Commission at our next meeting on April 14.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Francis Biddle
Chairman
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
Commission
1669 31st Street, N.W.
Washington 7, D.C.

27 March 1963

Dear Mr. Boutin:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on March 19, considered the intermediate small scale studies of mural paintings designed by Mr. Hollis Holbrook for a new Post Office building in Ocala, Florida.

The members of the Commission thought that the arrangement of colors and forms was generally well-handled with the exception of Panel No. 17, which seemed too large in scale for the other panels. Otherwise, the members of the Commission were favorably impressed with the sketches for the mural painting and thought that it would be a desirable addition to the Ocala Post Office.

It is the Commission's understanding that there has been some difficulty in raising private funds sufficient to complete the work as originally planned. The Commission recommends that the necessary balance be taken from construction funds or other sources appropriate for this purpose.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Bernard Boutin
Administrator
General Services Administration
Washington 25, DC

Copy to: Mr. J. Rowland Snyder,
Director, Design Division,
Public Buildings Service

Page 10, Section 1

The Commission of the European Communities (CEC) is a body of the European Union (EU) which is responsible for the implementation of the EU's budget and for the management of the EU's external relations. It is also responsible for the implementation of the EU's internal policies and for the management of the EU's internal relations.

The Commission of the European Communities (CEC) is a body of the European Union (EU) which is responsible for the implementation of the EU's budget and for the management of the EU's external relations. It is also responsible for the implementation of the EU's internal policies and for the management of the EU's internal relations.

It is the Commission's responsibility to ensure that the EU's budget is implemented in accordance with the EU's financial regulations. It is also responsible for the management of the EU's external relations and for the implementation of the EU's internal policies.

For the Commission of the European Communities

Director General

Page 10, Section 1

Director General
Director General
Director General
Director General

Page 10, Section 1
Director General
Director General
Director General

27 March 1963

Dear Mr. Wirth:

At the request of Mr. Robert C. Horne, Associate Regional Director of the National Capital Region of the National Park Service, the Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on March 19, considered prototype designs of comfort shelters to be erected throughout the Park System in the Washington area.

The members of the Commission believe it is important that this relatively small building be well designed, especially so if it is to be repeated in many areas. In the Commission's opinion, the proposed design is unsatisfactory. It could be improved in a number of ways; for example, the supporting areas separating the windows appear unnecessarily heavy and combined with the narrow strip windows, would result in poorly lighted and ventilated space; also the proportions of the end beams are awkward and the treatment of the brick walls too urban in character.

Mr. Sasaki, the landscape architect member of the Commission, described designs of buildings that he has seen in Canadian parks which utilize more open and lighter structures and seem more in keeping with park-like settings. Photographs of the actual buildings are available to Mr. Sasaki, and he would be glad to send them to you if you believe it would be helpful in making further studies of the design.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Conrad Wirth
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D.C.

18 April 1963

My Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to report the recommendations of the Commission of Fine Arts in response to your request for advice on the selection of a site for a bronze copy of a Fourth Century statue of the Greek Muse Melpomene, which is to be presented by the Prime Minister of Greece to the Department of State.

At their meeting on March 19 the members of the Commission discussed this matter with Mr. Clyde Dunn, Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, Mr. Charles A. Shinkwin, Office of Operations, Department of State, and Mr. Robert Horne, Associate Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Various sites, both in and near the new State Department building at 23rd and C Streets, were visited in reaching a decision.

In the opinion of the members, the statue could best be seen to advantage in an interior setting, where lighting and circulation of visitors could be adequately controlled. Although relatively new and in good condition, the bronze statue may be somewhat fragile and needs to be protected from possible vandalism. Of the sites considered, the members believed that a location on the east wall of the C Street lobby of the State Department Building would be well suited to the purpose. This site is protected, and yet is accessible to view by a large number of people. The background panel of existing green marble would also enhance the appearance of the bronze material of the statue.

As a base for the statue, the members recommend that it be mounted on a fluted drum of a Doric column approximately 30" high, and set out from the wall by several feet. It would be ideal, of course, to obtain an original Doric column drum from the relics of one of the Greek Temples; but, if this is not possible, and it probably will not be, it is recommended that at least a copy of this form be provided.

As an ultimate and permanent location for this statue, the Commission hopes that consideration can be given to transferring it eventually to the National Cultural Center at the time of the completion of its building.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Honorable Lucius D. Battle
Assistant Secretary of State for
Educational and Cultural Affairs
Department of State
Washington 25, D.C.

David E. Finley
Chairman

EXHIBIT D

THE NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER

100 Constitution Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002

27 March 1963

Dear Mrs. Adams:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on March 19, considered the designs for the obverse and reverse sides of the proposed San Rayburn Medal.

The members of the Commission thought that both the portrait of Mr. Rayburn and the symbolic elements on the reverse side had been well executed, and approved the designs as presented.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Eva Adams
Director
Bureau of the Mint
Department of the Treasury
Washington 25, D.C.

1000 1000

1000 1000

The Commission of the European Communities (CEC) has decided to grant a loan of 100 million ECU to the Government of the Republic of the Congo for the purpose of financing the development of the country.

The amount of the loan is 100 million ECU, which is equivalent to 100 million US dollars. The loan is to be repaid over a period of 10 years.

The Commission of the European Communities

Brussels, 1000

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1000 1000
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THE NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER

1701 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C. EXECUTIVE 3-3300 EXT. 3732

Created by Act of Congress, September 2, 1958

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 15, 1963

The Honorable David E. Finley
Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Finley:

Colonel Temple called this morning and requested that I send over to you the three seal designs the Army Heraldry Office prepared most recently with a view to solving our seal problem. Frankly, I am not happy with any of them.

The design marked "A" is simply too ponderous. The design marked "B" is grotesque. On design "C" I like the eagle, but not for the National Cultural Center.

As I indicated on the phone to you, the eagle as such is not particularly symbolic of the arts. Its function in our present use of it is to serve mainly as a symbol of the national character of the Center. For that reason we favored an eagle which most commonly in public usage symbolizes the United States Government. The eagle in design "C" could as well be symbolic of Federal period furniture.

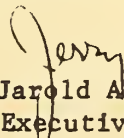
We would prefer sticking as close as possible to the type of eagle used in the United States Seal, but, of course, it does not have to be an exact replica. This eagle is impressive, without looking like a fierce animal, as does the eagle in design "C". I would remove the bundle of arrows and the special arrangement of stars in what Colonel Temple calls "the glory". Perhaps another arrangement of stars could be used.

I am inclined to leave the shield in its place because it has come to be even more symbolic of the United States than the eagle, and I think the eagle looks funny without it.

I notice that some of the other governmental departments have made use of variants of the type of eagle used in the United States seal, and I think it should be possible to come up with some appropriate design.

I would be glad to talk further on this matter with you.

Sincerely,


Jarold A. Kieffer
Executive Director

Enclosures

EXHIBIT F

1 April 1963

Dear Colonel Temple:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on March 20, considered three additional designs proposed for the National Cultural Center Seal.

All the designs featured an eagle as the principle element. The members of the Commission preferred design "B" and approved it with the following recommendations: that the nine stars on the top be omitted, and that the lettering around the perimeter be moved closer to the edge.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Colonel Harry D. Temple
Commanding Officer
The Institute of Heraldry
Cameron Station
5010 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia

Copy to: Mr. Jarold A. Kieffer
Executive Director, National
Cultural Center

1944-1945

Dear General Tamm:

The Commission of the American Bar Association has been organized to study the problems of the American Bar Association and to make recommendations to the American Bar Association.

All the American Bar Association has been organized to study the problems of the American Bar Association and to make recommendations to the American Bar Association. It is the Commission's hope that the American Bar Association will be able to make recommendations to the American Bar Association.

Very truly yours,

Walter W. Rife

Walter W. Rife
Chairman

Colonel Harry A. Tamm
Executive Officer
The Institute of Government
Executive Council
1414 14th Street
Alexandria, Virginia

Copy for Mr. Tamm to Mr. Tamm
Executive Council, National
Colonial Council

2 April 1963

Dear Colonel MacFarland:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on 19 March, considered your proposal to install aluminum railings as safety measures on top of the parapet walls flanking the steps leading to Memorial Hall, Arlington National Amphitheater.

The members of the Commission were not in favor of installing railings on these blocks of stone which were intended to serve as bases for sculpture or marble tripods in the original designs. They felt that the use of these architectural features as vantage spots for viewers of the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier would detract from the simplicity and dignity of the colonades and architectural setting. It would seem to the members to be a matter of policing the area when crowds congregate, to provide the necessary safety precautions.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Colonel James C. MacFarland
Chief, Memorial Division
Office of the Chief of Support Services
Washington 25, D. C.

1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl a) and *Chlorophyll b* (Chl b) are the two main photosynthetic pigments in green plants. They are responsible for capturing light energy and converting it into chemical energy through the process of photosynthesis. Chl a is the primary pigment, while Chl b acts as an accessory pigment, transferring energy to Chl a.

19 March 1963

Dear Mr. Green:

The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on 19 March 1963, considered Shipstead-Luce Submission No. 2589, an application to erect a thirteen story office building at 633 Indiana Avenue, N.W., which is a site clearly visible from Pennsylvania Avenue and the governmental buildings in this area.

The members of the Commission felt that they could not approve the plans as presented. In their opinion the architectural character of the building was too commercial, and they recommended that the design be restudied with respect to scale and materials in order to achieve a character more harmonious with the general architectural treatment of the nearby federal areas. Attention should be given to the penthouse to avoid an irregular skyline.

This is the kind of project in which the Commission welcomes preliminary submissions before working drawings have been made. We hope new designs can be submitted for the Commission's meeting on 16 April. Time will be reserved, if desired, for a discussion of the design with the architect on 17 April.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Mr. Julian P. Green
Assistant Superintendent of
Licenses and Permits
Department of Licenses and Inspections
District Building
Washington 4, D.C.

10/10/1944

Dear Mr. Brown:

The location of the site as shown on the map is in the
southeastern part of the city, near the intersection of
Main and 10th Streets, and is bounded by 10th Street to the
west, 11th Street to the east, and 12th Street to the south.

The nature of the proposed site is such that it will be
used as a parking lot for the proposed building. It is
located on the corner of 10th and 11th Streets, and is
bounded by 10th Street to the west, 11th Street to the east,
and 12th Street to the south. The site is of a size
suitable for the proposed building, and is located in a
convenient location for the proposed building.

This is the kind of project in which the Commission is
interested, and it is hoped that the Commission will
approve the proposed site. The Commission will be
concerned with the proposed site, and it is hoped that
the Commission will approve the proposed site.

For the Commission of the City:

Respectfully,
David E. Wiley

David E. Wiley
Chairman

Mr. Julian E. Brown
Assistant Superintendent of
Licenses and Permits
Department of Licenses and Inspections
Albany, N.Y.
October 10, 1944

SA:IFG:gms

August 29, 1962

IN RE: Authority of Board of Appeals and Review to review actions on recommendations of Fine Arts Commission under Shipstead-Luce and Old Georgetown Acts. (CDO: 3.All.1 - Fine Arts Commission.)

THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Gentlemen:

You forwarded to this office a request for an opinion concerning the authority of the Board of Appeals and Review, D. C., to review actions on recommendations of the Fine Arts Commission under the Shipstead-Luce and Old Georgetown Acts.

The file accompanying the request for opinion contains a letter from the Director, Department of Licenses and Inspections, D. C., in which it is stated that "Both the Shipstead-Luce Act and the Old Georgetown Act contain provisions whereby an applicant can appeal to the Commissioners the recommendations of the Fine Arts Commission."

These Acts, however, do not provide for an appeal to the Commissioners. Rather, they set forth a procedure whereby the Commissioners, upon receiving applications for the types of permits described therein, shall submit certain accompanying building or alteration plans to the Fine Arts Commission for review. The Fine Arts Commission must, in turn, promptly forward its recommendations to the Commissioners who, under the Shipstead-Luce Act "shall take such action as shall, in their judgment, effect reasonable compliance with such recommendation," and who, under the Old Georgetown Act "shall take such actions as in their judgment are right and proper in the circumstances."

As the Director points out in his memorandum, such permit applications have not been processed in a consistent manner. Some applications have been acted on directly by the Commissioners, while others have been acted on by the Department of Licenses and Inspections (ostensibly under Reorganization Order No. 55), and subsequently, in some cases, by the Board of Appeals and Review (ostensibly under Organization Order No. 112).

Two questions must be answered:

1. Does the Board of Appeals and Review presently have authority to act on directly or review actions on recommendations of the Fine Arts Commission under the aforementioned acts?
2. May the Commissioners lawfully delegate such authority to the Board of Appeals and Review?

Section 1 of the Shipstead-Luce Act, as amended, Section 5-410, D. C. Code, 1961 ed., provides as follows:

"In view of the provisions of the Constitution respecting the establishment of the seat of the national government, the duties it imposed upon Congress in connection therewith, and the solicitude shown and the efforts exerted by President Washington in the planning and development of the capital city, it is declared that such development should proceed along the lines of good order, good taste, and with due regard to the public interests involved, and a reasonable degree of control should be exercised over the architecture of private or semi-public buildings adjacent to public buildings and grounds of major importance. To this end, when application is made for permit for the erection or alteration of any building, any portion of which is to front or abut upon the grounds of the Capitol, the grounds of the White House, the portion of Pennsylvania Avenue extending from the Capitol to the White House, Lafayette Park, Rock Creek Park, the Zoological Park, the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, Potomac Park, The Mall Park System and public buildings adjacent thereto, or abutting upon any street bordering any of said grounds or parks, the plans therefor, so far as they relate to height and appearance, color, and texture of the materials of exterior construction, shall be submitted by the commissioners of the District of Columbia to the Commission of Fine Arts; and the said commission shall report promptly to said commissioners its recommendations, including such changes, if any, as in its judgment are necessary to prevent reasonably avoidable impairment of the public values belonging to such public building or park; and said commissioners shall take such action as shall, in

their judgment, effect reasonable compliance with such recommendation: Provided, That if the said Commission of Fine Arts fails to report its approval or disapproval of such plans within thirty days, its approval thereof shall be assumed and a permit may be issued." (Emphasis supplied.)

Section 2 of the Old Georgetown Act, Section 5-802, D. C. Code, 1961 ed., provides as follows:

"In order to promote the general welfare and to preserve and protect the places and areas of historic interest, exterior architectural features and examples of the type of architecture used in the National Capital in its initial years, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, before issuing any permit for the construction, alteration, reconstruction, or raising of any building within said Georgetown district described in section 5-801 shall refer the plans to the National Commission of Fine Arts for a report as to the exterior architectural features, height, appearance, color and texture of the materials of exterior construction which is subject to public view from a public highway. The National Commission of Fine Arts shall report promptly to said Commissioners of the District of Columbia its recommendations, including such changes, if any, as in the judgment of the Commission are necessary and desirable to preserve the historic value of said Georgetown district. The said Commissioners shall take such actions as in their judgment are right and proper in the circumstances: Provided, That, if the said Commission of Fine Arts fails to submit a report on such plans within forty-five days, its approval thereof shall be assumed and a permit may be issued." (Emphasis supplied.)

Part I, Section C 2 of Organization Order No. 112, which established the Board of Appeals and Review, provides, in pertinent part, that the Board shall consider and make final determinations on

" * * * * *

"2. Appeals submitted by applicants for licenses, permits, and certificates, from actions taken by responsible officials of the Department of Licenses and Inspections with respect to denial of a license, permit, or certificate; by persons with respect to suspension or revocation of such licenses, permits, or certificates currently in effect; and by persons directed to act or to refrain from acting, in accordance with inspectional or regulatory requirements (excluding dangerous and unsafe structures and excavations); * * *".

Part III, Section E 1 of Reorganization Order No. 55, governing the Department of Licenses and Inspections, clothed that Department, through its License and Permit Division, with authority to process and issue permits, and certificates for

"* * * the operation of businesses; building and certain other types of construction and alteration or repair; building use; and other miscellaneous matters requiring a license, permit, or certificate."

It does not appear to me from a study of the above-quoted Acts of Congress and said Organization and Reorganization Orders, that the Commissioners have delegated to the Department of Licenses and Inspections and to the Board of Appeals and Review the functions with which they were clothed by such Acts.

While, under the statutes in question, recommendations of the Fine Arts Commission result from applications to the Department of Licenses and Inspections for erection and alteration permits, it does not follow that the appellate jurisdiction of the Board of Appeals and Review over most decisions of that Department is applicable because the actions of the Commission of Fine Arts under the Old Georgetown and Shipstead-Luce Acts relate to aesthetic values rather than public health and safety.

In construing the above-quoted section of the Shipstead-Luce Act, the Court of Appeals said in Stanley Company of America v. Tobriner, 111 U.S. App. D.C. 404, 295 F.2d 313 (1961):

"The purpose of the reorganizing authority upon the formulation of this plan is to enhance and to preserve the beauty and esthetic values of specified parts of the Nation's Capital, including Pennsylvania Avenue between the Capitol and the White House. & c. &c."

An examination of Reorganization Plan No. 55 fails to reveal language showing an intention of the Commissioners to confer upon the Department of Licenses and Inspections authority to consider questions of esthetic values in connection with permit processing. Delegated to Licenses and Inspections in connection therewith were questions of public health and safety. Hence the Board of Appeals and Review lacks appellate jurisdiction over decisions on esthetic questions. The first question is, accordingly, answered in the negative.

The answer to the second question depends upon a construction of Section 3 of Reorganization Plan No. 5 of 1952, 66 Stat. 826, which provides as follows:

"Sec. 3. Performance of functions of Board.-- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized to make from time to time such provisions as it deems appropriate to authorize the performance of any of its functions, including any function transferred to or otherwise vested in the Board of Commissioners by this reorganization plan, by any member of the Board of Commissioners, or by any other officer, employee, or agency of the Government of the District of Columbia, except the courts thereof.

"(b) The Board of Commissioners shall not provide for the performance by any member of the Board of Commissioners, or by any other officer, employee, or agency of: (1) any function vested in the said Board by Act of Congress with respect to making and adopting regulations except those pertaining to the administration of or procedure before any agency of the Government of the District of Columbia; (2) the function of approving any contract in excess of \$25,000; (3) the function of appointing or removing the head of any agency responsible directly to the Board of Commissioners; or (4) the function of approving the budget for the District of Columbia." (Emphasis supplied.)

The delegation of the power to act on recommendations of the Fine Arts Commission, not having been expressly or impliedly prohibited by Section 3 of Reorganization Plan No. 5 of 1952, supra, is legally unobjectionable.

Whether, because of the nature of the decisions required to be made after the Commission of Fine Arts has acted, the Commissioners will want to relinquish this authority, is a matter of policy for them to decide. In this connection, your attention is directed to the difference in language of the two Acts. The Shipstead-Luce Act contains a provision, largely mandatory, that the Commissioners "shall take such action as shall, in their judgment, effect reasonable compliance" with the recommendation of the Fine Arts Commission, with the result that there is little of substance to delegate thereunder, while the Old Georgetown Act allows greater discretion respecting such recommendations, providing that the Commissioners "shall take such actions as in their judgment are right and proper in the circumstances."

Your attention is also directed to the fact that there is currently pending in Congress a bill which would, among other things, change this discretionary provision to a more mandatory one (87th Congress, 2nd Session, H. R. 10188). Certain features of this bill have been opposed by the Commissioners.

CONCLUSIONS:

1. The Commissioners have not delegated to the Board of Appeals and Review authority to act on or review actions on recommendations of the Fine Arts Commission under either the Old Georgetown Act or the Shipstead-Luce Act.
2. The Commissioners are not precluded by statute from delegating such authority if they so desire.

Respectfully,

CHASLES H. GRAY
Corporation Counsel, D. C.

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
MAR 14 1963

NOTED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

14 March 1963

SUBJECT: Appeals of the Jack Stone Company for the American Oil Company,
Docket Nos. M 2008 - M 2013

Pursuant to notice I appeared at the hearing room of the District of Columbia Board of Appeals and Review to attend a re-hearing on the above appeals at 10 :00 a.m. on Thursday, March 7, 1963. The re-hearing was scheduled because a breakdown of the recording apparatus used at the previous hearing on December 31, 1961 had resulted in the inability of the Board to produce a copy of the transcript as required by law. The previous hearing had resulted in decisions by the Board upholding the denial of permit applications on the basis of adverse recommendations by the Commission of Fine Arts.

The hearing was before the same board which had heard the 1961 hearing: John D. Fauntleroy, Chairman, Mrs. Marilyn C. Fine, and Mr. Raymond B. Ward, Member. Mr. J. Hampton Baumgartner, Jr., attorney of Wilkes and Artis represented the appellant, Mr. Louis Robbins, Assistant Corporation Counsel and Mr. Julian P. Green, Assistant Supervisor of Licenses and Permits represented the District of Columbia. Mr. Frederick L. Haller, Chairman of the Board of Appeals and Review attended the hearing.

After preliminary statements by Mr. Fauntleroy and Mr. Haller regarding the nature of the hearing and the reasons for holding it, Mr. Baumgartner withdrew certain of the cases from the appeal for various reasons, and it was agreed that the only appeals still remaining were those involving applications for signs at 2715 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (Old Georgetown No. 2996) and 490 C Street, S.W.

Mr. Robbins then stated that in an Opinion of the Corporation Counsel of the District of Columbia, dated August 29, 1962, entitled "In Re: Authority of Board of Appeals and Review to review actions on recommendations of Fine Arts Commission under Shipstead-Luce and Old Georgetown Acts (CCO:3.A 11.1 - Fine Arts Commission)" the Corporation Counsel had advised the District Commissioners that under the Acts of Congress and the reorganization acts of the District Commissioners authority had not been delegated to the Board of Appeals and Review to hear appeals from decisions involving the Old Georgetown and Shipstead-Luce Acts. The Opinion further indicated that there was no legal obstacle to prevent the Board of Commissioners from delegating this power to the Board of Appeals and Review if the Commissioners wished to do so. The Corporation Counsel's Opinion was approved by the Board of Commissioners on September 4, 1962. Mr. Robbins thereupon moved that the appeals be dismissed for want of jurisdiction in the Board to hear them. Mr. Baumgartner agreed to the motion and Mr. Fauntleroy announced that the appeals were dismissed.

C. L. Martin
Counsel

March 28, 1963

Dear Mr. Tobriner:

I am writing in regard to the appellate procedure to be followed henceforth in appeals involving the Shipstead-Luce and Old Georgetown Acts. The Commission has recently been informed that, pursuant to an Opinion of the Corporation Counsel to the effect that the Board of Appeals and Review has no authority to hear or decide appeals involving these Acts, certain appeals of the Jack Stone Company for the American Oil Company were dismissed by the Board of Appeals on March 7, 1963. It is noted that the Corporation Counsel's opinion indicated that, although the Board of Appeals does not presently have authority to hear this type of appeal, there is no legal objection preventing the Board of Commissioners from delegating this authority.

Inasmuch as the Commission of Fine Arts and the District Commissioners are assigned joint responsibilities under the Shipstead-Luce and the Old Georgetown Acts, the members were surprised to learn that the Corporation Counsel's Opinion was rendered on August 29, 1962, and was approved by the Board of Commissioners on September 4, 1962, but no notice of the nature of the Opinion, or its approval by the Board of Commissioners, was ever sent to the Commission.

In view of the responsibilities assigned to the Commission of Fine Arts under these Acts of Congress, the members of the Commission are interested in knowing what appellate procedure is to be established; also the Commission members have definite opinions as to a preferred method of appellate review. The Commission would, therefore, like to be informed as to what action the Board of Commissioners intends to take in this matter, and with many thanks, I am

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Walter H. Tobriner
President, Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia
504 District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

EXHIBIT K

1901-1902

1901-1902

I have been thinking of you very much lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I have managed to find some time to write to you. I have been thinking of you very much lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I have managed to find some time to write to you.

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1901-1902

1901-1902

1901-1902

will explain this in greater detail.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Glad to hear from you, Professor Moretti.

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): Mr. Moretti says he is very sorry he does not yet speak English. He hopes next time he will do a little bit better.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Tell Mr. Moretti we don't speak Italian and we're sorry we don't.

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): I would like to thank you. Even when I was ill, you were so kind as to give attention to the project, while I was absent. Thank you for that.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: We are very glad to know you are so much better.

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): I have tried to appreciate the comments made on the project and I tried to satisfy, as well as I could, and incorporate them into the whole complex of the buildings, to the best of my knowledge.

I was very pleased to hear the concern and the emphasis that should be laid on certain parts of the building, in order to put some variety in the skyline of the project, because that was the impression Mr. Cecchi conveyed to me when he returned to Rome. This was one of the major pre-occupations that the architects of the Fine Arts Commission

occupations that the architects of the Fine Arts Commission

when he returned to Rome. This was one of the major pre-

because that was the impression Mr. Cecchi conveyed to me

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PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter):

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CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Tell Mr. Moretti we don't

He hopes next time he will do a little bit better.

Moretti says he is very sorry he does not yet speak English.

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): Mr.

Moretti.

CHAIRMAN FINLEY: Glad to hear from you, Professor

will explain this in greater detail.

expressed to us, that they were very interested in helping the skyline by destorying the monotony of the even line, created at the top of the buildings.

I naturally reviewed this problem in the light of the two major fixed points, which were one: Of course not to go beyond the 1,730,000 square feet which were allowed, as far as the F.A.R. is concerned; and second, not to go higher than 130 feet that we were talking about, naturally in those areas that were established and limited to 25 per cent of the over-all roof surface.

The major preoccupation was with insisting in trying to bind and to marry the building complex to the natural site in which it is set, because I still feel that this is one of the major aspects of this problem; that is, exactly how to insert it into the nature around it.

As far as I am concerned, the most interesting point of view from that particular point is the view from here (indicating model). Well--the rest of it, naturally, too.

That is why I stressed in my own mind the point, and I tried to examine it and look at it not only from the outside but, let's say, from the inside of the whole complex.

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problem, which was originally thought of as relying very heavily on the perspective that you get by the relationship

of the different portions of the building, of the various parts of the building against the sky. I don't think I've expressed myself quite clearly. Maybe it would be worthwhile to say a few more words, because actually as you do walk around it, obviously when you have a complex which has such points, you do see those points very strongly.

If you look at it from the point of view of a perspective of somebody walking or driving down there, obviously the difference between this point (indicating), this corner and this portion of the building back here (indicating) is tremendous. And as the architect of the Fine Arts Commission has recommended, I have tried to put the highest point to unite the highest point with those points which would look the highest also from the perspective point of view.

Now, naturally, I distinguish first of all the view when you look at it from nearby, from close up, or when you look at it from far away. That is a problem on its own. When you get close to it, then the closeness of these two elements (indicating) which are never seen at the same time, naturally, except when you come from here (indicating) they will present themselves in successive phases of visual.

The dimensions in order to get a picture of what dimensions we are talking about, if we think about the width of the building--Building No. 1 and Building No. 3, it is really wider than No. 1.

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width of the building--Building No. 1 and Building No. 3, it

is really wider than No. 1.

MR. WALKER: Do you mean wider or longer?

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter):

Wider.

The most interesting problem, as far as the peculiar distribution of height is concerned, was in my opinion in Building No. 1, where Mr. Walker suggested at that meeting to try to reverse, actually, the situation, and try to put the highest point over here (indicating), and the lowest point over there (indicating), and try to see what that would do to the composition.

Now, this solution is a solution that is neither the first, original solution, nor exactly the one that you have suggested, Mr. Walker. It is the solution that has the following characteristics:

One of the first reasons it was that I felt that to emphasize and bring together the three highest points in the whole composition right here (indicating) would create a drama there that would be more effective than as if they were diluted.

On the other hand, there already is a certain difference between 1, 2 and 3 (indicating) due to the perspective distance, the distance given by the perspective.

If I had put the lowest part here, due to the perspective looking from there (indicating) the difference between this and this (indicating) would have been slight.

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It would have been less.

The third consideration has a more decidedly formal conception which is common to music, naturally, and architecture, also, which today we talk very often of as the open form. Naturally we should not pay more attention to these definitions than they deserve because we know that they don't really cover at all the meaning which they are supposed to. On the other hand, in order to explain what is behind the word that I used, it's that I feel whether the cultural center is going to be there or whether it is not going to be there, that is going to be a park area basically lower, and I feel, therefore, to invite, so to speak, continuity between the two adjacent areas, that one and this one, would be right.

Therefore, in order not to create such a sharp contrast, such a sharp break--between those two--

There are two different concepts: One is to create one architectural block which stands on its own merits, which architecturally could even be better but on the other hand, there is the other conception which is just as valid, I feel, and it is to not accentuate this break too much and to try to --

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One of the problems involved, when we come over to this

side of the complexes, one of the first ones is the position of the Washington Monument. Now, that was the reason that I felt that it was important to create a break, in order to achieve the following result, which one can really see here in a way (indicating) that if one is walking along the street here, being the upper part more pushed in than the lower part, and having this break, someone walks or drives along Virginia Avenue, actually one does not take into much account what is above at that point. It does not mean it does not exist, of course--only that it is reduced in importance.

On the other hand, as soon as we pass this point (indicating other model), then the upper part reverses itself against the lower part and comes further out, so while you have the lower part protruding out more, as it loses this corner (indicating) the upper part comes more out in order to give the dynamic sweep to this building.

This would be further accentuated by the fact which unfortunately is not shown on the model--that is one of the things that didn't come off on the model--that the lower part is going to be of a darker tone of--slightly darker tone of gray, while the upper part will be more slight, so there is a differentiation of tone of the two portions which also helps differentiation of the two sections of volume.

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While the terraces and balconies are so frequent in modern architecture, I feel they have not been sufficiently taken into account as an architectural element in a way that in antiquity they were used and utilized to give scale, the right scale to the whole complex. You know that when you saw a certain dimension that you are used to touch and measure and you understood that with the help of that you could measure your whole building, actually, and the balconies and parapets of those buildings are the perfect vehicles for that measurement. Because, of course, as you know, a building is never measured by its physical dimensions, but by the relationship, by the proportion that exists between each part and which is, of course,--that ties into the problem to design the balcony railings.

And I feel that I am afraid that very often we modern architects have forgotten that there can be a human measure to things and even if that consists of half an inch, we are able to measure it and this enormous mass has to be brought down to that dimension in order that it is able to be measured.

The next point is landscaping--how to tie this complex of buildings into the site. The first step that has been taken was to eliminate one row of these villas down here (indicating) in order to accentuate the break, make it more clear, which was, I think, always one of the points

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of Mr. Walker to make a more definite break or passage from one level to the next level, rather than have too many steps and almost unnoticeably slide down.

A further development of the landscaping idea was carried to the point where it was felt that it would be desirable to tie the interior space which we find back of the building to the exterior space. That can be achieved, and I have tried to achieve it by opening up certain areas at the ground floor level, in order to make the interior part visually accessible also to the street.

Another point which in landscaping was considered was the thought of tying the outside and inside together with a series of fountains that would also create a new, a succession of water from the outside to the inside, and so tie together the two spaces in that way, too.

The last point is probably one of the most important ones: If we didn't try to give some very serious attention to the problem of what would happen to the mechanical volumes that so often protrude, the roof, and it wouldn't have achieved to create something else, then we would have to automatically destroy that very accurate balance and play that we tried to achieve and that the Fine Arts Commission recommended us also to do, the difference of levels and broken skyline, because it is quite useless to worry if one surface is slightly above the other and then you just put

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huge towers on top of it and--this is the reason why the company is now considering and has examined very thoroughly the possibility of eliminating completely the cooling towers from the project and find a different solution for it, which is--the solution that is now being studied is to first of all have just one mechanical floor for what the cooling towers are concerned with, except for heating, which is under there (indicating model), and to concentrate it below the pools right there at the edge of the property, below the grass; and to concentrate the cooling towers right there under ground.

MR. WALKER: Do you expect to use the water from the Potomac?

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): No, we tried to but it's too dirty and it's not cold enough.

In that case, what we could do, if we eliminate this serious problem of cooling towers, which no matter what you do they are terribly difficult to make them look good--we would then try to create some real hanging gardens, some real roof gardens on top, which would be related to the amounts below them and this actually is the significance of what you see on that model (indicating), and then all you would have is the exits of the other villas. That there's little you can do about, and there are two fire exits also required, but compared to the huge bulk of the cooling tower, this is rather easy to handle. The other one makes it difficult to

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create a satisfactory roof design.

We are also studying the possibility of reversing the machinery of the elevators in order to gain a few feet and just have the over-run of the elevators above and try to get the machinery below.

MR. WALKER: Do these little lumps up there represent--

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): These two represent the terrace and--

MR. WALKER: What are the little things?

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): These are the stairs that connect these top penthouse apartments to the terraces which would be glazed. They would be little staircases to permit them to have isolated little spaces divided by greenery so you would have a green crest. Unfortunately, it is not showing very well. (Indicating drawing on board)--This is the garden with a little fountain and the main point is you would see, also, green shrubs crowning the villa.

The other point is, of course, that the shrubs would not only separate one little garden from the other, but they would also follow actually, almost as a parabola the contour of the building--

As far as the facing material is concerned, I was thinking and examining the possibility of using that--

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MR. WALKER: Mr. Chairman, may I ask to see a plan of one of these floors of the middle of this place--not a duplex but a single floor? What does a floor look like?

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): We have those plans.

MR. WALKER: I want to know how you sub-divide them.

MR. ORR: Now we need a sub-division of the apartment.

PROFESSOR MORETTI (Through an Interpreter): We can send somebody to pick it up. We didn't know that you would be interested in that. You see, this is more or less just a key plan. The next step is a quarter-inch apartment plan. We have efficiencies, mostly, on the outside, bigger ones in the corner, and one or two rooms--

MR. FISHER: The basic concept, Mr. Walker, is

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NEWS RELEASE
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

WASHINGTON: 20 March 1963 - The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on March 19, conferred with Mr. Luigi Moretti, and other architects and representatives of the Island Vista Corporation regarding plans for the proposed Watergate project to be located along Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway between Virginia and New Hampshire Avenues, N.W.

Preliminary designs for the entire project plus detailed plans for apartment building No. 2 were shown to the members for their consideration.

The Commission was favorably impressed with the progress that has been made in the designs since guidelines had been established last summer. Details of the plans remain to be worked out, however, and will be presented to the Commission at future meetings.

IV. LEGISLATION

1. Draft Legislation-Bureau of the Budget-3/12/63-Rpt.Rqstd.

"To amend the National Cultural Center Act, to enlarge the site within which the National Cultural Center may be built; to enlarge the Board of Trustees, and for other purposes."

2. S. 165-1/14/63-Mr.Javits-88thC-Rpt.Rqstd.

"To establish a United States Arts Foundation."

3. S.315-1/18/63-Mr.Dirksen-88th C - Rpts. Rqstd.

"To amend the National Cultural Center Act as amended, to enlarge the site within which the National Cultural Center may be built."

4. H.J.Res. 181-1/24/63-Mr. Kyl-88thC-Rpt. Rqstd.

"Providing for the establishment of the Board on Presidential Memorials in the Nation's Capital."

5. H.R.262-1/9/63-Mr.Abermethy-88thC-Rpt.Rqstd.

"To provide that certain real property under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior shall be transferred to the Secretary of the Army and made a part of the Arlington National Cemetery."

6. H.R.893-1/9/63-Mr.Hull-88thC-Rpt. Rqstd.

"To authorize the erection of a memorial in the District of Columbia to General John J. Pershing."

7. H.R.1584-1/10/63-Mr.Curtin-88thC-Rpt. Rqstd.

"To amend the Act of August 21, 1935 to provide for a determination of whether certain sites, buildings, or other objects are of national historical significance, and to prohibit the use of Federal funds for highway purposes which damage or destroy national historical sites, buildings, or other objects."

8. H.R.2984-1/29/63-Mr.Garry-88thC-Rpt.Rqstd.

"To authorize the enlargement of the Arlington National Cemetery and to provide the certain land heretofore reserved for other purposes shall be made a part of the Arlington National Cemetery and shall be administered by the Secretary of the Army as a part of the Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes."

3/19/63

NO ADDRESS AND OWNERPROJECT

2583

800 Conn. Ave., NW
Nat'l. Bank of Wash.7 s-f signs. 102 sq-ft total. Individual cast bronze ltrs.
Flat against bldg.

ACTION: Disap'd. Proposed signs are excessive in number & coverage, & employ mixed styles of lettering. Recom. limiting signs to numbers 1 & 4, provided ltrs. are of a uniform style, & a height of 12". Also, no objection to a revised sign reading "Lafayette Square Branch" located over window at corner & using appropriately-spaced ltrs. of the same style as other signs, 3/19/63.

2584

2601 Conn. Ave., NW
Dwoskin-Vicrtek (Wallcoverings)Install one 8'-long slimline lighting fixture in metal trough
above sign.

ACTION: App'd., provided supporting flange is turned down rather than up, & that ends of trough are closed in.
Also paint metal trough to match adjoining masonry, 3/19/63.

2585

2344 Mass. Ave., NW
Mrs Jeane L. DixonRemove exist. front steps & porch, install new front steps &
platform to 1st fl. Convert front part of base to private
garage, install driveway & ret. walls. 8'-wide entr. steps
ext. 14' beyond bldg. line.

ACTION: App'd., provided a flat arch or soldier course is included over head of garage doorway, 3/19/63.

2586

1701 Penna. Ave., NW
1st Nat'l. Bank of Wash.Rev. of SL 2568. 3 s-f signs. 4" white plexiglas ltrs. ap-
plied to $\frac{1}{4}$ " (bronze finish) anodized alum. plates. To be
mounted in exist. transom areas.

ACTION: App'd. for signs with non-illuminated ltrs., 3/19/63.

2587

738-15th St., NW
Mackall & Coe (Stock Exchange)1 s-f, 2.5 sq-ft cast alum. wall plaque-bronze finish. Ap-
plied cast alum. ltrs. 2" & 3" bronze finish to be mounted
beneath exist. street number on right side of entr.

ACTION: App'd., 3/19/63.

2588

738-15th St., NW
Mackall & Coe1 s-f, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ sq-ft alum. panel (light amber) with cast alum.
ltrs. (color-ivory). Panel illuminated with (1) T-12 fluor.
fixture. Unit to be mounted in transom area above entr.

ACTION: App'd., 3/19/63.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT APPLICATIONS (Continued)

3/19/63

<u>NO</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
2589	633 Indiana Ave., NW Indiana Associates	13-story off. bldg. with basem. garage & penthouse. Ground fl.-shops & lobby; 2nd fl.-garage; 3rd thru 13th fls.-off. space.
ACTION: Disap'd. See letter dtd. 3/19/63 to Ass't. Superin. of Licenses & Permits, D. C. Dept. of Licenses & Inspections, 3/19/63.		
2590	400-12th St., SW McLachlen Banking Corp.	Rev. of SL 2578. New 2-story addn. 4' (varies) brick fence.
ACTION: App'd., 3/19/63.		
2591	2521 Conn. Ave., NW American Security Corp.	4 s-f signs. 6 sq-ft total. All 3" individual black alum. ltrs. to be installed in recesses provided in wall enclosing parking area. 2 on Conn. Ave. side. 2 on Calvert St. side.
ACTION: App'd., 3/19/63.		

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON OLD GEORGETOWN ACT APPLICATIONS

MAR 11 1963

<u>NO</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
3331	1045-30th St., NW John Ingenfelter	New 5-story brick office bldg.
ACTION:	Not recom'd. See attached ltr., dtd. 3/1/63, to Ass't. Superintendent of Licenses & Permits, 3/1/63.	
3332	3104 M St., NW Chaole, Inc.	Add new doors, window blinds & paint front elevation. Rear concrete steps.
ACTION:	Not recom'd. Resubmit elevation drawings coinciding with changes indicated on floor plans & described in proposed work. Also recom. retaining exist. cornice, & fascia over display-window, MAR 11 1963	

1 March 1963

Dear Mr. Green:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on February 20th, considered an application for a permit to erect a five-story office building on premises located at 1045-30th Street, N.W. on lots 35, 39, 40 and 60, on square 1192.

The site of the proposed building borders on the historic Chesapeake and Ohio Canal in Georgetown and the proposed building would be prominently visible from "Y" Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, and other important thoroughfares in the neighborhood.

The Commission is, therefore, very concerned about the appearance of this large building as seen from many points of view, and the effect it would have on the character of Georgetown. Elevations which ordinarily would be considered less important, such as the side and rear, are actually, in this instance, more conspicuous than the entrance facade on 30th Street. The overall form of the building would be more significant than the detailed architectural treatment of any of its parts.

As presently conceived, the principal mass of five stories would extend eastward from 30th Street approximately 60 feet, where it would drop to four stories in height and extend eastward another forty feet. The remaining twenty feet of the building area would be occupied by a one story extension. On top of the five story mass there would be a penthouse structure some twelve feet in height, set back from the front and side eaves by twenty and forty feet respectively, but on the east and rear it would rise without setback as a continuation of the five story wall. The total stepped effect of this design produces an unattractive relation of forms.

The Commission considers this aspect of the design to be one of the more important ones, and strongly recommends that the overall form of the building be restudied in order to achieve a more regular and orderly design. The Commission will then be in a position to advise on details of the architectural treatment. In this regard, the members believe that the character indicated on the preliminary sketches is being developed in the right direction, and what remains to be done is more a matter of refinement of the treatment than anything else.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman



Mr. Julian P. Green
Assistant Superintendent of
Licenses and Permits

Washington, D. C.

3/19/63

<u>NO</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
3333	304 1/2 "O" St., NW MR & Mrs H. D. Auchincloss	Construct Stonyhurst granite fence, 7'. Construct Stonyhurst granite ret. wall, 3'-8".
ACTION:	Recom'd., provided that flush joints are substituted for recessed joints, thus eliminating "dry-wall" appearance of masonry, 3/5/63.	
3334	3205 K St., NW Krouse's Waterfront Inn	5 canvas awnings suspended from bldg. with fixed iron frames. 3 color samples submitted for CFA selection.
ACTION:	Recom'd. for awnings with green color fabric per sample subm'd. Also recom. awnings not incorporate translucent plastic ltr'ing. or any ltr'ing. on tops or side valances, 3/5/63.	
3335	3210 Grace St., NW Oscar S. Cox (Warehouse)	Addn. of glazed doors (2 pairs) to 2nd fl. of warehouse.
ACTION:	Recom'd., provided thicker muntin be relocated midway within door frame, 3 lights high, 3/5/63.	
3336	3226 "O" St., NW Esther Cardoza	Install 8'-long picket gate 42" high to match exist. fence to which it adjoins on the west.
ACTION:	Recom'd., 3/12/63.	
3337	1234 Wisc. Ave., NW Alvin Peck (Office furniture)	Replace exist. 1 over 1 double-hung sash with muntined paned sash. No change in size of window openings.
ACTION:	Recom'd., 3/12/63.	
3338	2901 M St., NW Wm's. & Baker, Inc. (Used Car Lot)	"Twirlers" which revolve on wire stretched between poles, 60' on M St. & 60' on 29th St.
ACTION:	Not recom'd. See attached ltr. dtd. 3/19/63 to Ass't. Super. of Licenses & Permits, 3/19/63.	
3339	3317 M St., NW Stohlman Chevrolet	Raze in entirety 1-story gas station structure. Not condemned by D. C. Gov't.
ACTION:	Recom'd. No arch'l. or historical characteristics are discernible in this bldg. that would preclude issuing a permit to raze it, 3/12/63.	

March 19, 1963

Dear Mr. Green:

I am writing in regard to an application for a building permit, O. G. 3338, 2901 M Street, N. W., forwarded to the Commission of Fine Arts by the District of Columbia Department of Licenses and Inspections in accordance with the Old Georgetown Act, Public Law 808, 81st Congress.

The application requests a permit authorizing the continued use on the premises of plastic, propeller-shaped pin wheels, which revolve on wires stretched between poles on a used car lot. The application states that this device, which is mounted overhead along the sidewalk for a distance of 60' on "M" Street and 60' on 29th Street, is commonly utilized on used car lots. The Department of Licenses and Inspections has indicated that the application does not comply with applicable District of Columbia Regulations and, therefore, constitutes a request for an exception.

The Commission of Fine Arts has carefully considered the application and accompanying photographs, and finds that the device for which the permit is requested is inappropriate in the Old Georgetown District and recommends that the application be denied.

In evaluating applications such as this the Commission must utilize its best judgment to determine whether the projected use is aesthetically appropriate in Georgetown and in addition must consider what precedent might be established if the application is recommended. As you know, Congress in establishing the Old Georgetown district, clearly intended to set it aside as an area of national importance and directed that every effort should be made to preserve and protect its architectural and historic values. This means necessarily that architectural features, such as advertising methods, which are appropriate in other areas of the District of Columbia are entirely inappropriate and even objectionable in the Old Georgetown District.

The members of the Commission recognize that this device and similar methods are commonly used to attract customers to used car lots. In their judgment such devices contribute to the disordered appearance of such lots and detract from the architectural values of the Georgetown District. Moreover, since the granting of an exception in this case would establish a precedent for granting similar exceptions to owners of other commercial properties in Georgetown, the intent of Congress would be seriously impaired.

Mr. Julian P. Green

March 19, 1963

For these reasons, the Commission recommends that the application be denied.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Mr. Julian P. Green
Assistant Superintendent
of Licenses and Permits
106 District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

7. District of Columbia Department, Department of Buildings and Planning

a. One Junior High School, 104 1/2 Ave. S.E. - Architect Design (Mr. E. L. Bennett, Licensed Architect, D.C. Department of Buildings and Planning; Mr. Johnson, architect of process and court)

b. Wildred Green Elementary School, 1501 St. 4 Millington Avenue, S.E. - Architect Design (Mr. Farnell; Mr. J. K. McClure, architect of Marine and University)

8. District of Columbia Department Land Survey

Southwest Urban Renewal Area - Revised Plans for Development of Urban Avenue Interchange

(Mr. Stanley Graham, Chief of Project Design, F&M; Mr. David Tree, Director, Washington Channel Highway Department; Mr. Calomachus Smith, architect)

ADJUDG

June 10, 1951

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

For these reasons, the Committee recommends that the Commission be authorized to:

For the Commission of this matter:

Sincerely yours,

Walter E. Hall
Chairman

W. J. Sullivan, Jr.
Assistant Secretary
of Internal and Foreign
Affairs
Washington, D. C.